

In The Claims:

Claims 1, 5, 7, and 13, amend to read as follows:

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1. (Amended) In a planar fuel cell stack, the improvement comprising:
means for providing co-flow of fuel and oxidant gases, and
means for surface sealing a cell so as to provide an increased effective seal area and durability of the seal,
said means for providing co-flow includes an integral, internal manifold for each of the fuel and oxidant gases,
said internal manifold including aligned openings in adjacent components.

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5. (Amended) A co-flow planar fuel cell, including:
a first interconnect plate,
a cell casing/holder plate having an aperture,
a fuel cell, and
a second interconnect plate,
said first and second interconnect plates and said cell casing/holder plates each having at least one pair of openings therein located in an end section thereof and aligned with an adjacent plate for co-flow of a gaseous fuel and an oxidant therethrough, said fuel cell being peripherally mounted in said cell casing/holder plate on a surface of a rim section located adjacent said aperture.

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7. (Amended) The fuel cell of Claim 5, wherein each of said first and second interconnect plates and said cell casing/holder plate is provided with at least one pair of openings located in both end sections thereof and wherein said openings in adjacent plates are aligned to provide co-flow of said gaseous fuel and said oxidant therethrough.

af 13. (Amended) The fuel cell of Claim 12, additionally including a plurality of radially extending slots extending from each of said one of said opening of each of said pairs of openings to provide gas flow distribution.

Claim 2, cancel.